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SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/AGS

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [ETTC](#) [KAWC](#) [ICTY](#) [BK](#) [EU](#) [AU](#)
SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN POSITION ON TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS FOR
KARADZIC FAMILY

REF: STATE 82494

Classified by: Acting Economic-Political Counselor Philip
Kaplan for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

¶1. (C) Acting Econ/Pol Couns discussed reftel points August 6 with Thomas Schnoll, MFA Unit Chief for Southeast Europe. Acting Econ/Pol Couns stressed that it would be unwise to lift the travel restrictions on the Karadzic family until more is known about the family's possible links to the support networks of the remaining fugitive PIFWCs. He also averred that lifting the restrictions prematurely could undermine the position of the OHR in Bosnia. The restrictions were imposed as part of a coordinated U.S./EU/OHR effort, and any decision to lift them should be taken the same way.

¶2. (C) Schnoll acknowledged that a decision by the EU to lift the restrictions could further strengthen PM Dodik. Nevertheless, he said, most EU member states, including Austria, have supported the idea of lifting the sanctions during meetings in Brussels. The idea has been approved without controversy at the Political Advisor level, though there is no rush to move forward with it, he said. Schnoll said he believed that the OHR had been consulted on the matter. He averred that even if the restrictions were lifted, Karadzic family members would still have to apply for visas, enabling EU member states to control their travel.

Girard-diCarlo